

Illinois has the third largest state highway and interstate system in the nation. These nearly 16,500 miles of roadways and nearly 7,900 bridges make up only a fraction of all roadways and bridges in Illinois but carry the majority of traffic and are heavily used. In FY 2004, the state highway program included about \$1.7 billion in federal, state and local matching funds, with the majority of funds programmed to preserve and modernize the existing system of roads and bridges.

FY 2004 Highway Program at a Glance:

- 41,664 jobs supported;
- 1,237 miles of road improvements;
- 249 bridge improvements;
- New bridge and retaining wall along with bridge replacement and rehabilitation on Dan Ryan at I-90 (Skyway) in Cook County;
- Interchange improvement, new bridge deck, bridge widening, and reconstruction on I-74 in Peoria:
- Grading, paving and new bridge on U.S. 67 in Scott and Morgan counties;
- Additional lanes, resurfacing and bridge replacement on I-64 in St. Clair County.

PUBLIC AND INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION

In 2005, the IDOT Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation was created, combining Public Transportation, Rail and support functions under a single service umbrella. This Division develops and recommends policies and programs that promote safe and efficient rail and mass transit systems and support services in Illinois. Division staff coordinates and participates in local and statewide planning and programming activities. The Division also develops, implements, and manages planning and engineering projects and grants for operating, capital and technical programs within rail and mass transit.

Public Transportation

Northeastern Illinois is home to the nation's second largest combined public transit system. This transit system provided 549.3 million rides to passengers in FY 2004. Outside the Chicago area, state-supported public transportation serves 11 urbanized areas and 31 rural and small-urbanized areas throughout downstate Illinois.

In FY 2004, IDOT allocated federal, state and local funds worth nearly \$1.2 billion for operating assistance and nearly \$1.1 billion for capital assistance to public transportation services throughout Illinois.

Metropolitan Planning Services

IDOT works with other government agencies at every level on technical public transportation studies such as bus and rail feasibility studies, service optimization studies, and the creation of metropolitan planning organizations, including about 20 technical studies in FY 2004.

FY 2004 Transit Program at a Glance:

- 51,000 jobs supported;
- \$41 million for CTA's order of new rail cars:
- Rehabilitation and reconstruction of track, structures, and stations on the CTA's Blue and Red Lines:
- Continuation of work on Metra's North Central Service, SouthWest Service, and Union Pacific West Line extensions:
- \$39 million allocated for Pace to purchase buses, vanpool equipment, and radio system upgrades.



FY 2004 TRANSIT PROGRAM FUNDING

Operating Assistance

Amount

15,790,000

\$421,980,000

\$707,740,000

Source

Federal

State

Local

Total

PUBLIC AND INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION



Rail

The Illinois Department of Transportation is participating with private sector railroads, the city of Chicago, and other local agencies in one of the most ambitious rail modernization projects in U.S. railroad history. The CREATE program is a \$1.5 billion public/private partnership designed to improve the flow of rail freight throughout the Chicago metropolitan area. CREATE stands for Chicago Regional Environmental and Transportation Efficiency program, which is precisely what the project is designed to do – create greater transportation efficiency and fewer environmental concerns.

IDOT has initiated \$10 million of preliminary engineering work to ease rail freight congestion that has long plagued the Chicago area. Rail freight congestion creates traffic tie-ups for local commuters, increases wear and tear on local roads, and causes countless lost revenues in shipping delays.

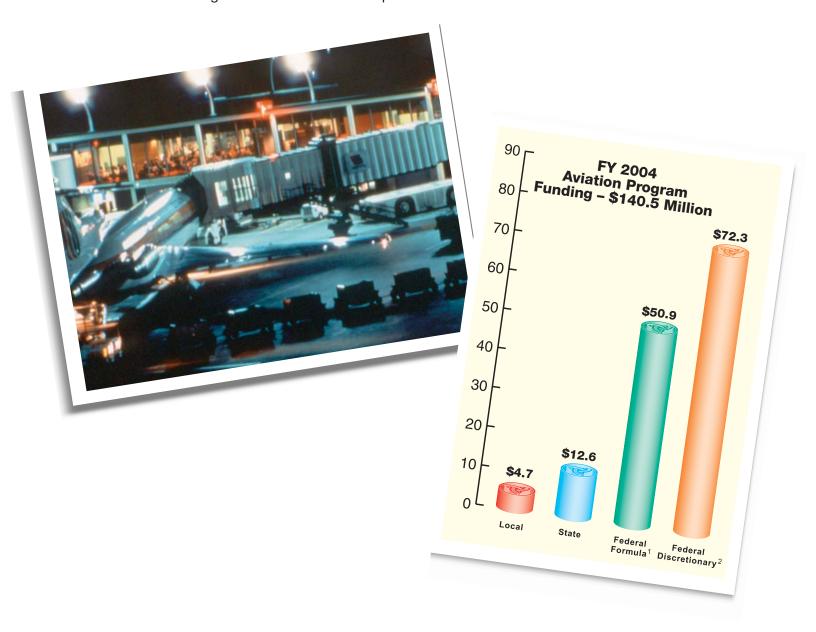
IDOT also continues to make improvements along the Chicago-St. Louis High Speed Rail Corridor. A \$50 million track upgrade project is nearly complete, and electronic informational signs at stations along the entire corridor inform passengers of up-to-the-minute changes on train arrival and departure times.



Illinois' airport network is the second largest in the nation with 114 airports designated for public use, including Chicago O'Hare, the world's busiest airport, and 272 heliports. The FY 2004 Transportation Program included more than \$140 million in federal, state and local matching funds for improvement projects at airports throughout Illinois. The funded projects improve the safety and efficiency of the airports and support opportunities for economic development by attracting or retaining industries and jobs in communities throughout the state.

FY 2004 Aviation Program at a Glance:

- 2,900 jobs supported;
- Supported improvements to runways, taxiways and safety equipment additions at 77 airports statewide;
- Continued efforts to reduce congestion in the northeastern Illinois air corridor;
- Continued working with Chicago to modernize and expand O'Hare;
- Continued working on Tier II Environmental Impact Statement and purchasing land for the inaugural South Surburban Airport.



SAFETY

IDOT has taken traffic safety to an entirely different level in Illinois with the creation of the Bureau of Safety Engineering, whose function is to focus more effectively on analyses of traffic safety hazards and the coordination of broad strategies to better ensure the safety of Illinois travelers.

Comprehensive Safety Planning – IDOT's Division of Highways, Bureau of Safety Engineering, and the Division of Traffic Safety have taken the lead on developing a Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan with an overall goal of making Illinois streets and highways safer in a variety of ways. This interagency approach to better coordination and integration of safety improvements across the state is designed to better utilize existing resources and save more lives on Illinois highways and streets.

The Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan seeks to better coordinate the variety of transportation-related safety work that goes on in state and local agencies throughout Illinois, to reduce duplication of efforts and to increase cooperation and emphasis on statewide strategies. The idea is to leverage federal, state and local resources and services to educate drivers and find more innovative ways of making roads and bridges safer for motorists.

Traffic Safety – As safety belt usage in Illinois jumped to 83 percent by June 2004, traffic fatalities in 2004 declined by nearly 9 percent compared to the previous year. That means **100 fewer people died on Illinois streets and roads in 2004 than in 2003**. At the same time, traffic fatalities in work zone crashes declined by 10 percent in 2004, and the number of highway workers killed in work zone crashes dropped from seven in 2003 to two in 2004.

Work Zone Safety Improvements – IDOT has implemented a variety of activities designed to

make highway construction zones safer for motorists and workers.

- Increased and automatic fines for speeding in work zones.
- Better defined, more visible work zone markings.
- Increased speed enforcement in work zones.
- Use of remote-controlled flagging devices.
- Planned use of photo enforcement technology in work zones.
- Additional barrier protections for workers in construction zones.
- · Nighttime illumination of flagger stations.

Mobile Crash Reporting – IDOT, in conjunction with the Illinois State Police and other law enforcement agencies throughout Illinois, has implemented a system allowing police officers to record and transmit crash reports from their vehicles. Goals are to speed crash reporting, save hundreds of hours of reporting and input time, and reduce input errors for law enforcement officers throughout Illinois and for IDOT staff. The first-year program already has saved IDOT thousands of hours of input time and has vastly improved the quality and speed of information entering the reporting system.

